

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is requested in view of the amendments made herein and the following remarks.

Claims 1-7, 10, 24, 26 and 28-44 are pending, with Claims 1, 10, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 42-44 being independent. Claim 26 was amended by an Examiner's Amendment and claims 28-44 are newly added. All claims have been previously allowed.

Claims 8 – 9, 11 – 23, 25, and 27 were previously cancelled by the Examiner in an Examiner's Amendment. The Examiner later attempted to "rejoin" the claims. However, it was requested that the cancelled claims be readded as new claims. Accordingly, new claims 28 – 44 are identical to previously cancelled claims 8 – 9, 11 – 23, 25, and 27.

For the reasons stated above, it is requested that this application be allowed in a timely manner.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner feel that a teleconference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 30, 2006

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